

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

In the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph starting on page 5, line 3 as follows:

B1

FIG. 2. is a block diagram of the headend 11 as configured in the cable television system network to provide media-on-demand (MOD) services. MOD application server 19 is responsible for provisioning the services provided by the MOD application, as directed by the system operator, and for providing the content or data needed by the MOD application client that executes on the DHCT 16. Provisioning is the process that defines the MOD application's services, including the reservation and configuration of system resources needed to provide those services, and the capability to bill for such services. MOD application server 19 and a plurality of other application servers 20 44 are connected to a digital network control system (DNCS) 23 via an Ethernet connection 32.

Please amend the paragraph starting on page 5, line 11 as follows:

B2

The DNCS 23 provides complete management, monitoring, and control of the network's elements and broadcast services provided to users. The DNCS 23 uses a data insertion multiplexor 29 and a data QAM 30 to insert the in-band BFS data into an MPEG-2 transport stream. The DNCS 23 also contains a Digital Storage Media – Command-in-Control (DSM-CC) 34 session and resource manager 34 that works with other components of the DNCS 23 in order to support the delivery of the MOD service to the user. The DSM-CC session and resource manager processes user to network (U-N) session signaling messages, manages allocation of session-related network resources and supports network management operations. The DSM-CC session manager 34 (FIG. 2) supports exclusive services such as MOD by providing the signaling interface to establish, maintain and release client initiated exclusive sessions. The DSM-CC session manager acts as a point of contact to the network for the DHCT's in the network 18 to establish individual sessions. The DSM-CC session manager also defines a resource descriptor structure, which is used to request the network resources within a session.

Please amend the paragraph starting on page 10, line 4 as follows:

FIG. 4E is a diagram of ~~the steps 89 to establish~~ for establishing an MOD session.

B3
The DHCT 16 initially sends a message 91 to the DNCS 23 that initializes a session request. The request 91 usually happens after the MOD application client 65 has allowed the user to select a title that the user wishes to rent or purchase. Information about the on-demand media and any other application specific information is passed from the MOD application client 65 to the VOD content server connection manager in the VOD server session setup indication message 93. This setup indication message 93 is not modified by the DNCS, but is merely passed straight to the MOD application server 19. When the MOD application server 19 receives the session setup indication message 93, it verifies the eligibility of the DHCT 16 and the service that is being requested. The DNCS 23 may send the DHCT 16 a session proceeding indicating message 94.

Please amend the paragraph starting on page 10, line 13 as follows:

B4
If the VOD content server 22 determines that it can deliver the service, it sends a ServerAddResourceRequest message 97 to the DNCS 23 to reserve the network resources to deliver that service. The DNCS 23 allocates the requested resources and sends to the VOD content server 22 a ServerAddResourceConfirm message 98 to indicate that the requested resources have been allocated. The VOD content server 22 then responds to the service session indication message 93 with a server setup response message 99 that indicates that the VOD content server 22 is ready to begin delivering the service using the resources allocated by the DNCS 23. VOD content server 22 session setup response message 99 may contain user data which is passed by the DNCS 23 to the DHCT 16. The DNCS 23 sends the ClientSessionSetupConfirm message 102 to the DHCT 16 that contains the resource descriptors (not shown) needed by the DHCT 16 to receive the requested service. This message 102 may contain the user data that was sent from the VOD content server 22. Finally, the DHCT 16 sends to the DNCS 23 a ClientConnectRequest message 104 indicating that the DHCT 16 is ready to receive the requested service, and the DNCS 23 sends the VOD content server 22 a connect indication message 105 indicating that the DHCT 16 is ready to receive that service.

Please amend the paragraph starting on page 19, line 25 as follows:

B5

Similarly, when new MOD titles are available for sale or release, a system operator adds the MOD titles to the MOD application server 19. The MOD application server 19 (FIG. 2) provides both a graphical user interface (GUI) and an API interface to install a MOD title asset onto the system. Typically this is done by, as a non-limiting example, inserting media such as a tape into the MOD application server 19 and using the graphical user interface (GUI) to define the meta-data about the title, but this process can be automated via the use of APIs (Application Programming Interfaces). The MOD title includes MPEG video assets for the title and optionally a trailer, as well as meta-data about the title. Meta-data includes but is not limited to data about the title, such as it's name, description, rating, directors, actors, length, etc. The MOD application server 19 assigns a unique title ID ———and installs the added MOD titles to the VOD content server 22 by transferring title ID and MOD title MPEG content. The VOD content manager 21 adds the MPEG content to the VOD content servers 22. The MPEG content for each newly added MOD title may include not only the video (or other media), but may also include MPEG data for a trailer for the MOD title that may be later included on a trailer channel or in the MOD title catalog screen 197 in portion 204a as described above.

Please amend the Abstract starting on page 44, line 2 as follows:

B4

~~One embodiment of the present invention provides a method for an interactive media services system to enable a user to receive media to an interactive media services client device coupled to a programmable media services server device. In this method a memory is implemented for storing data of said client device. Additionally, an interactive media guide is stored within the memory of the client device. A processor in the client devices causes the client device, in response to the interactive program guide and requests of the user, to display the interactive media guide and the media. A method for providing a video-on-demand (VOD) presentation includes determining whether an active video-on-demand (VOD) session for the VOD presentation exists, providing a selectable option to view the VOD presentation responsive to determining that the active VOD session exists, and providing a list of selectable VOD titles responsive to determining that the active VOD session does not exist.~~